June 15, 2006

Scott Smith Aquatic Nuisance Species Coordinator Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife 600 Capitol Way N. Olympia, Washington 98501-1091

Dear Scott Smith:

The state legislature has set a July 1, 2007 deadline beyond which no discharge of unexchanged or untreated ballast water is allowed. Meeting this important goal is dependent on providing the shipping industry with a list of tested and approved ballast water treatment technologies. State rules set standards for this treatment. One standard is that treated ballast water must meet state water quality discharge laws. The Department of Ecology Water Quality Program is responsible for reviewing proposals for ballast water treatment involving biocides for compliance with this standard and making approval recommendations to your agency. We have completed our review of the PERACLEAN® Ocean ballast water treatment system and the enclosed document contains our evaluation and recommendation.

We have reviewed the results of toxicity tests conducted on the same formulation that would be used in the PERACLEAN® Ocean ballast water treatment system to kill unwanted organisms. These toxicity test results were reviewed to determine if system controls can make sure that the ballast water discharged from a vessel during the conditional approval period can be reasonably expected to not cause environmental harm. We predict that the PERACLEAN® Ocean ballast water treatment system can be operated without environmental harm if reasonable conditions are maintained. Therefore, we recommend conditional approval in the enclosed *Recommendation for Conditional Approval of the PERACLEAN® Ocean Ballast Water Treatment System* and list the conditions needed for environmental safety.

Because of the newness of the PERACLEAN® Ocean system, the approval should allow installation on only one vessel while both its effectiveness in controlling unwanted species and environmental safety are checked in a trial period. We have included requirements for further toxicity testing during the trial in order to verify environmental safety.

If you have any questions, please contact me at: <u>rmar461@ecy.wa.gov</u> or 360-407-6445.

Sincerely,

Randall Marshall Whole Effluent Toxicity Coordinator

Enclosures

cc: Kevin Anderson, Program Manager, Aquatic Nuisance Species Program Morris Barker, Program Manager, Marine Resources Program Dave Peeler, Program Manager, Water Quality Program